# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:474
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
SCHOOL DROPOUT GIRLS
Bangaru Smt. Susheela Laxman

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the dropout rate amongst girls is as high as 50 per cent by the time they reach adolescence around Class VIII;

(b) if so,the details and reasons therefor;

(c) whether recently a scheme has been formulated by the Government to provide meals to girls between the ages of 12 to 15 years as an incentive to persuade parents to keep them in schools; and

(d) if so,the details of the proposed scheme,including the modalities drawn up for implementing the same,the cost likely to be involved and the source/pattern of funding decided therefor?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT.D. PURANDESWARI)

(a)to(b): As per the data available with the Ministry,drop out rate among the girls during 2005-06 at elementary stage (classes I-VIII) is 48.98%.Several socio-economic and school related factors affect dropouts.

(c)to(d): No such scheme has been formulated to provide a meal exclusively for girls between the ages of 12 to 15 as Mid-day Meal Scheme of the Ministry covers all children studying in classes I-VIII,irrespective of their age and sex,in Government,Local Body and Government aided schools and the centres run under Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE).